SHRI E. AHAMMED: These are all what the railways has been doing on its own. We are all very much anxious to complete the projects at the earliest. But, these are the unavoidable constraints. That is why, I just mentioned to take the House into confidence to explain the position of the railways as such.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Now, Q.No. 425. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Sir, my question has not been answered.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please register a complaint if it has not been answered. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री राम नारायण साहू : सर, हमें भी बोलने का मौका दीजिए।

श्री सभापति : आपकी भी बारी आएगी। **...(व्यवधान)...** बैठ जाइए प्लीज़ **...(व्यवधान)...** देखिए, टाइम कम है, कोई फायदा नहीं।

UGC's coaching scheme for Minorities

*425. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of cities/towns covered under UGC's coaching scheme for Minorities in the country, State-wise;

(b) the details of beneficiaries under the above programme since its implementation in the country, State-wise;

(c) whether there are any plans for opening of new degree colleges and universities for minority women; and

(d) if so, the details thereof with a particular reference to Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Under the University Grants Commission (UGC) Schemes - (i) 'Remedial Coaching at Undergraduate and Postgraduate Levels', (ii) 'Coaching for Entry in Services and (iii) 'Coaching to prepare for National Eligibility Test (NET) or State Eligibility Test (SET) for Lectureship', 419 institutions were provided grants in 22 States/UTs during the Tenth Plan for 32535 beneficiaries belonging to the minority communities, incurring an expenditure of Rs.2065.39 lakhs. These Schemes have been merged during Eleventh Plan under the scheme of development grants to institutions with total allocation of Rs.2854.25 lakhs. Presently UGC is running these schemes in 88 State Universities, 22 Central Universities and 9 Deemed Universities. In addition, UGC has provided assistance to Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi (Rs.697.69 lakhs), Maulana Azad National Urdu University (Rs.414.39 lakhs), Baba Saheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Lucknow (Rs.539.39 lakhs) and Aligarh Muslim University (Rs.664.39 lakhs) for setting up of 'Residential Coaching Academies for Minorities/SCs/STs and Women'. The Coaching Programmes in these institutions will start from January, 2010.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU; Sir, under the University Grants Commission scheme, during the X Plan period, it has provided 32,000 students from the minority community and they are benefited, Sir. I asked the Minister: 'What is the total number of minority students that are benefited during the XI Plan period?' This was the question. But, the Minister in his written answer has not given any categorical answer to that. In addition to that, the Minister has said, 'The scheme is going to be implemented from 2010-onwards.' Then, my question is: Is it a part of austerity measure not to implement the scheme from 2007-10?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, the hon. Member is right. As far as the X Plan is concerned, the three schemes benefited 32,535 members of the minority community. In the Eleventh Plan the schemes were merged, in other words, the schemes related to SCs, STs, OBCs and minorities. Now under the Eleventh Plan, as the schemes are on-going, because the schemes are merged, there is no process by which we get the number of beneficiaries belonging only to the minority communities. We do not have those numbers. If we have those numbers, we will certainly, Sir, place them before the hon. Members of the House.

SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Sir, our hon. Minister and the Government of India announced that a lot more is going to be done for the minority community students in the coming period. But in his reply he said that in the Tenth Plan period Rs.20 crores have been spent for coaching. For the Eleventh Plan period he has announced Rs.28 crores. It includes minorities, SCs, STs and women also. So, is it not an austerity measure? They are including everybody and reducing the money also. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question please.

SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether they are going to apply austerity measures by cutting down the amount meant for the minority communities. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, not only will there be no austerity measures, but, in fact, the question of applying austerity measures to such schemes also does not arise. I want to give a categorical assurance to the hon. Members. The Eleventh Plan scheme, which is, of course, now merged in the various categories, gives Rs.28 crores. But other than that, the UGC has provided assistance to Jamia Hamdard where the benefit goes to the minority community, which is about Rs.7 crores, Maulana Azad National Urdu University, which is about Rs.4 crores, Aligarh Muslim University, which is over Rs.6.5 crores, and Bhim Rao Amedkar University, which is almost Rs.5.5 crores. So, these are special schemes other than those schemes which I have already mentioned for which Rs.28 crores are set apart. So, there is no question of austerity measures at all.

SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Sir, the idea is go give free coaching to minority students in order to bring them on a par with other general students. But if you look at the scheme, UGC again conducts All India Merit Test to select minority students for giving coaching. The idea is to provide coaching to all minorities irrespective of their ability. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he proposes to do away with the All India Merit Test and provide coaching to all minorities.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, the whole purpose of coaching is that they can sit for the Merit Test. The purpose is not to take away merit. So, these remedial coaching schemes are where the student is weak in a particular subject or he finds a particular subject too complicated. We give him additional coaching so that he actually passes the test. Wherever we feel that he is weak, we are willing to give him remedial coaching. Not only that, under these coaching schemes, we will give him about 50 clock hours of teaching. So, there are several components of the scheme through which we help the students belonging to the minority communities. Sitting for the test or sitting for the Public Service Examinations, it is a separate thing altogether. But remedial coaching means that he should be empowered through coaching, through teaching, through extra tuition outside the unified course system so that he is able to cope with the academic standards and he can pass the Degree. The MET and others are separate.

SHRI BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Thank you, Sir, for giving me the opportunity, finally. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have been raising my hand since eleven o' clock in the morning.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is bound to happen.

SHRI BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Sir, my question is in two parts. You have said that this UGC scheme is there for three or four reasons. One can understand remedial coaching for entering service or for preparing for National Eligibility Test or for lecturership. I want to ask the Minister how many who have undergone this training in the past have got into the services or have got into lecturership? I want to know whether that money has gone down the drain or has it proved useful. The (b) part of my question is: further you have stated that some universities which you have mentioned have also been granted fund in the Eleventh Plan. Do you think that only in these universities which you have mentioned - Baba Saheb Ambedkar University and Maulana Azad National Urdu University, only in these-minorities or the weaker sections or the students of the socially weaker sections of the society go? There are many other universities where these students are studying. Why don't you enlarge this, not university-wise, but student-wise? That is my suggestion. Kindly answer this.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, as far as the number of people who have passed the eligibility test or who have gone into services is concerned, I don't think there is any methodology that we have, that any person who gets into the UPSE reports back to us that he was in fact coached in NET or he was

coached in UPSE and therefore, passed the test and therefore, he was empowered. I don't think there is any methodology available with the Government. So, I don't think I will be able to provide you that figure. As far as your second question is concerned as to whether we should expand the scheme to other institutions, at the moment we have not expanded that scheme because there is a concentration of large minorities and wherever there is concentration of large minorities in large universities like Aligarh Muslim University, I think, it would be a good idea to put the scheme into action there than to go into several other small institutions. But, as and when, we have allocations which are available to us in order to expand this, certainly it is something that the Government is open to.

SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY: Sir, it is a welcome idea of setting up of residential coaching academics for minorities, SCs, STs and women. My question is: when there is more number of minorities available, why are you clubbing SCs, STs and women together in this? Already SCs, STs and women have other institutions for coaching. Why not you have this for minorities so that it will be more helpful to them?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, in fact these are not the only schemes of the Government of India. The Ministry of Minority Affairs also has several schemes which benefit the minorities. The Social Welfare Ministry also has several schemes which benefit the SCs, STs and the OBCs. The Ministry of Human Resource Development has one such scheme which benefits across the board. But, it is not as if there are no schemes available under Ministries which in fact impact and benefit SCs, STs, OBCs as well as minorities.

*426. [The questioner Shri Ramdas Agarwal was absent. For answer *vide* page 26 infra.]

*427. [The questioner Shri Nand Kumar Sai was absent. For answer *vide* page 26 infra.]

Setting up of world class university in Gujarat

*428. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: ††

SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Government of Gujarat has provided land, free of cost, for setting up of world class university in Gandhinagar; and

(b) if so, by when the proposed university will be established?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

---

†† [The question was actually asked in the floor of the House by Shri Kanjibhai Patel]